

Stephen Thompson House
East Haven, Connecticut

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of Connecticut

Historic American Buildings Survey
Harold H. Davis, District Officer
29 Whitney Ave., New Haven, Conn.

STEPHEN THOMPSON HOUSE

East Haven, New Haven County, Connecticut

Owner: Mr. Henry Smith

Date of Erection: 1760

Architect or Builder: Stephen Thompson, Builder

Number of Stories: One and one-half

Materials of Construction: Stone foundation
Clapboard sidewalls
Wooden shingled roof
Stone end

Other Existing Records: Old Houses of East Haven -
Donald V. Chidsey

List of Photographs:

1. South Elevation

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STEPHEN THOMPSON HOUSE

East Haven, New Haven County, Conn.

At 298 Hemingway Avenue facing east on the East Haven Green stands the Stephen Thompson House, built in 1760 by the man whose name it bears. The builder, Mr. Stephen Thompson, was injured in an accident occurring when he and two others fell while placing the last window cap over one of the upper windows in the Old Stone Church in 1774. After considerable suffering he regained his health and remained a prominent citizen of this Connecticut town. He had four sons, Stephen being the one to occupy this house upon its completion.

For the past two generations this house has been occupied and owned by Mr. James Smith and the house has often recently been referred to as the "Jim" Smith House, "Jim", as he was known to every one, held the deep respect of all--especially the ill-doers as he was the constable and represented the law for many years.

The house remained in the hands of the Thompson family until November 12, 1844 when the property was bought by Mr. Henry Smith from Mr. Raneom Thompson. The last occupant of the house was Mr. Montague Smith, now in his ninety-third year, who abided here until 1934. Now the house remains vacant and for sale, and is in a very dilapidated condition.

This structure is of the story and a half type with the walls at each end made of stone and mortar. The south end with its stone end and chimney is a fine example of this type. The house is of clapboard with a shingled roof of dutch design.

It is with regret we note that the interior of this structure is so gutted and the entire structure in such a condition as to be dangerous to investigate it from within, for it seems that in its prime it must have stood majestically overlooking this peaceful town green.

Sources of Information: Old Houses of East Haven.
(Donald V. Chidsey)

Author: John F. Flanagan

Approved: Harold H. Davis. Date: June 23 1939.

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